

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing, reexamination and reconsideration of the subject application are respectfully requested in light of the amendments above and the comments which follow.

As correctly noted in the Office Action Summary, claims 15-26 were pending. By the present response, claims 15 and 23 have been amended, and claims 24-26 canceled. Thus, upon entry of the present response, claims 15-23 remain pending and await further consideration on the merits.

Support for the foregoing amendments can be found, for example, in at least the following locations in the original disclosure: page 2, lines 20-26; page 3, lines 6-10; page 8, lines 13-26; and the original claims.

Entry of the foregoing is appropriate pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.116 for at least the following reasons: the foregoing amendments reduce the number of issues and place the application in better form for an appeal.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 15-26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,173,556 to Coran et al. (hereafter "*Coran et al.*") on the grounds set forth in paragraph 2 of the Official Action. For at least the reasons noted below, this rejection should be withdrawn.

The present invention is directed to a composition having good mechanical properties, such as good impact strength, as well as good paintability using an electrostatic paint deposition process, especially at high temperatures.

A composition formed according to the principles of the present invention is set forth in amended claim 15. Amended claim 15 recites:

15. A composition comprising at least one polyamide matrix and a dispersed phase composed of at least one impact modifier, said dispersed phase containing at least one electrically conductive filler in an amount sufficient to provide the composition with a level of conductivity suitable for painting by an electrostatic technique.

Coran et al. fails to anticipate the composition set forth in amended claim 15.

As evident from the above, claim 15 requires a composition comprising at least one polyamide matrix, with a dispersed phase contained therein, the dispersed phase having at least one electrically conductive fuller "in an amount sufficient to provide the composition with a level of conductivity suitable for painting by an electrostatic technique." By contrast, while *Coran et al.* discloses that carbon black can be used as an additive to an electoplastic composition, *Coran et al.* is silent with regard to the level of electrical conductivity which may be provided to the overall composition, much less providing the overall composition with an electroconductivity which is sufficient to allow for painting by an electrostatic technique, as required by amended claim 15.

Thus, *Coran et al.* clearly fails to anticipate the compositions set forth in amended claim 15. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The remaining claims depend either directly or indirectly upon claim 15. Thus, these claims are also distinguishable over *Coran et al.* for at least the same reasons noted above.

CONCLUSION

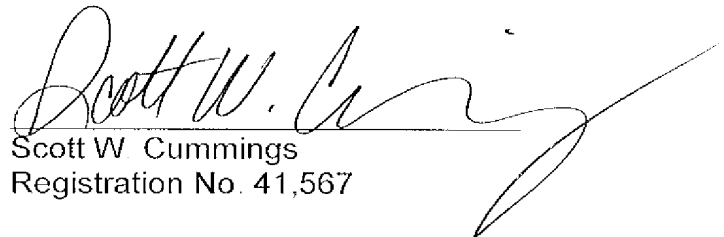
From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner feel that any issues remain, it is requested that the undersigned be contacted so that any such issues may be adequately addressed and prosecution of the instant application expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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